

The Official USU Newsletter

the pulse

Volume 5, Issue 6 • April 19, 2010

www.usuhs.mil



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the USU Office of External Affairs unless otherwise indicated. The Pulse staff may include or exclude articles based upon news value, impact on the university and space availability.

Submissions

The Pulse will be published bi-weekly on Mondays. The deadline for submissions is at 4 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. Submissions can be sent to usunewsletter@usuhs.mil or by calling 301-295-0895.



Illustration by Dr. Damian Rispoli

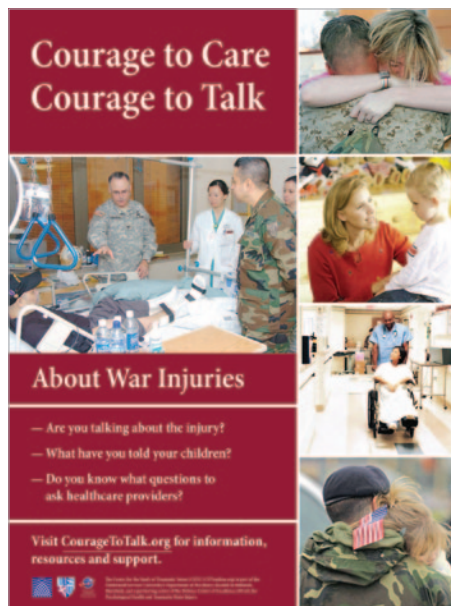
On the cover

USU alumnus Dr. Damian Rispoli's "Things That We Carry" earned a "Best in Show" at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Wounded in Action art exhibit. See story page 6.



CSTS Campaign seeks improved communication for caregivers, families

by Ken Frager



Courtesy Graphic

The Courage to Care Courage to Talk program posters and brochures help spread the word about the resources available to military members and their families with questions about war injuries.

As of March 2010 more than 36,000 service members had been injured during OIF/OEF. Considering that slightly more than half of the active duty force is married, many with children, the number of families and children who are impacted by parental injuries of war is significant.

"Research tells us that military children and families are generally strong and resilient," said Stephen Cozza, M.D., professor, Department of Psychiatry, and associate director for the USU Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress, or CSTS. "We also know that military families and communities face challenges their civilian counterparts do not. Parental wartime injuries are an example."

The Child and Family Program in the CSTS initiated its Courage to Care Courage to Talk campaign on April 1, 2010, with a goal of facilitating and improving communication between health care providers and families, and within the family itself, especially in talking to children about war injuries.

The hospital-based campaign is intended to assist hospital and rehabilitation center staff with connecting families to resources and providers within the treatment facilities who can answer their questions, talk with them about their children, or address other family or communication concerns related to the injury.

The campaign is initially being rolled out at a number of the larger military treatment facilities throughout the United States, along with Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany and the four primary Veterans Affairs Polytrauma Rehabilitation Centers in Virginia, Minnesota, California and Florida where the combat-injured are being treated.

"We found that families of injured service members, many of whom visit and/or stay in or near hospitals and rehabilitation clinics for extended periods of time, face a cascade of events that can raise family stress, lead to additional family separation, and raise child anxiety and worry about parental health and their own safety," said Dr. Cozza. "Children may visit the hospital and need to be prepared for what they see. Long term, families may need to manage with parental changes because of combat stress/PTSD related problems or complications related to traumatic brain injury. Our goal with Courage to Care Courage to Talk was not to create additional work for the medical professionals and care teams in these facilities, but more of a resource that families would find useful."

Courage to Care Courage to Talk acknowledges the important role families play in the injury recovery process and the importance of family resilience, sustained parenting and appropriate communication about the injury with children of all ages to ensure their healthy development.

Additional information about Courage to Care Courage to Talk is available at www.couragetotalk.org.

USU students volunteer, mentor local teens

by Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine

Navy Ensign John Roman talks to a student from Wheaton High School's Biosciences Academy during their visit to the National Museum of Health and Medicine's Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. Roman was one of four USU medical student volunteers to educate and mentor the 59 teens who attended the event.

Four USU medical students volunteered their time during the Spring Break to mentor and inspire local teenagers, as part of an ongoing Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) effort.

Air Force Lts. Amanda Elam and Kallyn Johnson, Army Lt. Alicia Scribner and Navy Ensign John Roman, spent time with 59 ninth and tenth grade students from Wheaton High School's Biosciences

Academy to encourage their continued interests in science and medicine.

The academy's mission is to bring "students together from diverse cultures and learning styles to unite them through shared experiences that challenge them to think about their future." It tries to prepare students for the challenges of college and the many rapidly expanding careers in biomedical science.

The academy uses a variety of in-depth learning activities to both motivate and educate its students. And one of its most valuable assets is USU medical school volunteers.

"They are absolutely fabulous," said Heather Carias, the Biosciences Academy director. "There are about a dozen USU volunteers that come to our school regularly on Saturday mornings to tutor our students. Your (USU's) medical students are wonderful. They have really mentored our students and supported us."

The four USU volunteers accompanied the academy students to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology's National Museum of Health and Medicine. The students visited with the volunteers over lunch, met with Navy Capt. (Dr.) Mark Stephens, the FMIG advisor, and then toured the museum with Elam, Johnson, Scribner and Roman, who offered their expertise and unique insights to the BA students.

"These volunteers demonstrate many good academic qualities to our students, like the importance of good study habits," Carias said. "We can tell them, the students, that studying is

USU Volunteer Continued on page 5

Campbell Named Among Best Doctors in America

by Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine

Army Col. (Dr.) William W. Campbell, professor and chair of USU's Department of Neurology, has been named one of the year's Best Doctors in America by Best Doctors, Inc.

Campbell has served as chair of USU's neurology department since July 2004. He is actively engaged in the subspecialties of Neuromuscular Disease and Electromyography.

He is also actively engaged in research on ALS, exertional rhabdomyolysis, traumatic peripheral nerve injury, peripheral nerve ultrasound, quantitative sensory testing, quantitative sweat testing in nerve injury, and peripheral nerve compression syndromes.

Best Doctors, Inc. was founded by two Harvard medical school physicians to help make the best medical expertise available around the world. Over the last decade, Best Doctors has developed a database of more than 35,000 specialists in the United States, in 44 specialties and more than 400 subspecialties of medicine.

Physicians are selected through a peer-review survey, and are included in a database of subject matter experts who serve as independent medical resources for more than 10 million people in 30 countries.

"The notifying letter said only 5 percent of docs in the USA are selected," Campbell said. "I am honored and humbled."

Over the past several years, Campbell has remained a competent clinician while at the same time producing a respectable body of research and intellectual work including 68 full length articles in refereed journals and three books. Most notably this past year, he helped establish an independent Neuroscience Center of Excellence at USU.

And while being noted as one of the best doctors in America through his continuing and varied efforts, Campbell attributes the key to his success as one thing.

"Perseverance," he said. "You can't be afraid to take on a challenge or not be willing to take on new things."

Dr. Marian Tanofsky-Kraff Named 2010 Leonard Award Recipient

by Sharon Willis



Photo by Ken Frager

Lisa Ranzenhofer, MA, a third-year civilian graduate student in medical/clinical psychology and Marian Tanofsky-Kraff, Ph.D., (pictured on right) review some of the latest research on loss of control eating in teens.

Marian Tanofsky-Kraff, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and is the recipient of this year's Leonard Award for Clinical Research. She is also a Researcher in the Unit on Growth and Obesity at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development where she did her post-doctoral fellowship.

Prior to receiving her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Clinical Psychology from the Catholic University of America, Dr. Tanofsky-Kraff was a Research Associate at the Yale Center for Eating and Weight Disorders at Yale University where she coordinated a comparison psychotherapy trial for the treatment of binge eating disorder in obese adults.

Her research program at USU involves the intersection of obesity and eating disorders in pediatric samples and addresses questions about the risks, protective factors, maintenance, consequences, and prevention of childhood eating disturbance and excess adiposity,

with a particular focus on loss of control eating.

Dr. Tanofsky-Kraff has extensive experience in the assessment of disordered eating patterns in youth, ranging from structured clinical interviewing to carrying out laboratory feeding paradigms. Currently, she is conducting a randomized-controlled, NIH-funded trial to examine the effectiveness of using interpersonal psychotherapy for the prevention of excess weight gain in adolescent girls at high risk for obesity. She has published more than 50 peer-reviewed articles and chapters on disordered eating and obesity.

"Marian's pioneering work has concerned the etiology and treatment of adolescent eating disorders and the prevention of adolescent obesity, both enormous public health problems in the U.S. population," said David Krantz, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology. "The focus of her research has been on the role of Loss of Control Eating in the development and treatment of eating disorders and the prevention of weight gain in adolescents by treating this characteristic.

"Loss of Control eating refers to the tendency to reflexively eat in the absence of hunger," he said. "Largely due to Marian's pioneering work, LOC will be recognized as a clinical diagnostic characteristic in the upcoming Diagnostic and Statistical Manual V (DSM V) of the American Psychiatric Association."

Dr. Tanofsky-Kraff was chosen to receive the 2010 Leonard Award based on her work, "The FTO Gene rs9939609 Obesity Risk Allele and Loss of Control over Eating," and "A Pilot Study of Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Preventing Excess Weight Gain in Adolescent Girls At-risk for Obesity."

The Leonard Award for Clinical Research



Photo by Thomas Balfour

Dr. James Leonard

The Leonard Award for Clinical Research is named for the founding Chair of the Department of Medicine, James Leonard, M.D., an internationally-respected cardiologist.

Dr. Leonard came to USU in 1976 from the University of Pittsburgh. He was perhaps best known for his classic research on the physiological basis of heart sounds. Dr. Leonard was a leader in cardiac research and was instrumental in establishing undergraduate clinical education at USU and graduate medical education programs at USU-affiliated hospitals. His broad view of medicine and his open door made him a favorite of students and colleagues alike. Dr. Leonard retired in 1996 and was named Chair Emeritus.

The Leonard Award for Clinical Research was established in his honor in 2003. Dr. Leonard died in 2005. Past recipients of the Leonard Award include Drs. Andre DuBois, George Tsokos, Mark Haigney, Carol Fullerton, Shiv Srivastava, David Tribble and Thomas Darling.

Neuroscience 'Superstar' delivers 25th Annual Packard Lecture

by MC1 Chad Hallford

The Faculty Senate and USU President Dr. Charles L. Rice sponsored world renowned neuroscientist, Dr. Floyd E. Bloom as the 25th annual David Packard Lecturer, March 31.

Bloom's lecture focused on research of norepinephrine and the evolution of the understating of the neurological and psychiatric diseases of today.

Bloom, a Professor Emeritus at Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., is a leader in neuroscience research, focusing on neurotransmitter systems and their relevance to brain functioning, mental health and addiction. Bloom pioneered the use of molecular biological techniques to examine molecules and genes relevant to brain function.

"Of all the activities and opportunities one has as the president of the Faculty Senate, the greatest honor is to help arrange for and invite a superstar to come address the faculty, staff and students of the University," said Dr. Neil Grunberg, president of the Faculty Senate.

Bloom joins an elite group of Packard lecturers that includes 2002 Nobel Prize recipient Dr. Sydney Brenner and Dr. Francis Collins, current director of the National Institutes of Health who was the leader of the Human Genome Project that, in 2003, completed the sequencing of the human DNA instruction book.



Photo by HM1 Michael Oliver

Dr. Floyd Bloom delivers the 25th annual David Packard Lecture, March 31. Bloom's lecture focused on research of norepinephrine and the evolution of the understating of the neurological and psychiatric diseases of today.

USU Volunteer

Continued from page 3

important, but for them to hear that from these volunteers and then see their dedication and the importance of a good education is outstanding."

And the volunteers did make a positive impact on each ninth grade student. "They are very helpful and informative," said Jessica Medrano, a ninth grade student in the WHS Biosciences Academy. "They made this tour very interesting. I hope they come visit again soon."

Whether providing their personal expertise or a living dynamic to the field of biomedical sciences, USU's student volunteers are making a difference for the next generation.

"Our students get the opportunity to see people now who are doing what they want to do and be where they want to be in the next six to eight years," Carias said. "These volunteers are great examples for our students."

UIS changes its name

by MC1 Chad Hallford

The University Information Systems department has changed its name to Network Operations and Communications.

"The new name more appropriately reflects the functions and services staff and students can expect relating to network connectivity and telecommunications requirements," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Eduardo Macalanda, deputy chief information officer (CIO) for the USU.

The change from UIS to NOC is part of a bigger reorganization of information technology assets within the Office of the CIO along four broad service lines: Centralized Customer Support, Information/Knowledge Management, Network/Infrastructure Support and Library Services.

To help maintain a seamless transition, Mr. Edmund Jackson remains as

the Infrastructure division head, assisted by the following branches and chiefs, respectively:

- Systems Support — Martin Cisna
- Information Assurance — Joel Robertson
- Telecommunications — Marv Gilbert
- Network Operations (USU) — Steve Davis
- Network Operations (AFRRI) — Gary Robey

"Each has been charged to ensure the delivery of the highest quality service in the most efficient, customer friendly manner possible," said retired Army Lt. Col. Timothy Rapp, Vice President for Information Technology and CIO.

Office locations and contact information for the above personnel will remain unchanged and customers should expect additional services, with no loss in current capabilities.

USU Alumni Display 'Wounded in Action Art' on Capitol Hill

by Sharon Willis

Artwork by several graduates of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) will be featured in a public display in the Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., as part of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) "Wounded in Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements," April 26-30.

'Wounded in Action Art' (www.woundedinactionart.org) celebrates those heroes who have had orthopaedic injuries as a result of serving their countries in war. The art celebrates the strength and spirit of injured troops, wounded civilians, and their families, as well as the commitment of the orthopaedic surgeons who assist them on their journey to recovery.

The artists include military personnel who live with orthopaedic injuries and family members who helped them through their recovery process. Orthopaedic surgeons who treat wounded military and civilians and whose lives have been affected by war and their own experience with such injuries are also artists in this exhibition.

Four alumni of USU are among the surgeons whose works will be displayed in the Capitol Hill exhibit: Army Lt. Col. Anthony A. Beardmore (SoM '95) and Col. James R. Ficke (SoM '87, along with his daughter, Heather), Navy Cmdr. and USU Commandant Patricia L. McKay (SoM '93); and Air Force Col. Damian Rispoli (SoM '92). Retired Army Lt. Col. Roman A. Hayda, a USU alumnus (SoM '88), and Navy Lt. Michael Sracic (SoM '08) also contributed to the AAOS display, but theirs will not be among the artwork featured in the Russell exhibit.

Sracic also currently has artwork featured in the "Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th Century Chesapeake" exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. (<http://anthropology.si.edu/writteninbone/>).

"This exhibit provided an opportunity to support the AAOS while sharing, through the artwork, some of the emotion and personal experiences of war," said McKay. "The artwork captures memorable moments or feelings that can be difficult or impossible to express with words. Seeing the exhibit and reading the artists' stories helped to put the experience of war into a broader context and has enhanced my understanding of the perspective of others who have felt the profound impact of war."

After the Russell showing, the artwork will be divided and placed on display in several locations, including Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the University of Maryland, Baltimore, from Memorial Day through Veterans Day. With the exception of Hayda's, all of the USU alumni art will be available for viewing at these sites.



Courtesy Photo

Dr. Damian Rispoli's "Things That We Carry" was awarded a "Best of Show, Orthopaedic Surgeon" ribbon by the Orthopaedic Research Society recently during the Wounded in Action: An Art Exhibition of Orthopaedic Advancements. Rispoli was one of eight award recipients at the AAOS' Wounded in Action art exhibit during their 2010 annual meeting in New Orleans.

"I'm proud to see so many USU alumni among the artists," said Col. Richard A. Schaefer, chief of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, Norman M. Rich Department of Surgery at USU. "The exhibit gave me pause to reflect on my own experiences while serving in a combat zone, and I suspect that is the same for other veterans."

Briefs

Education Day:

The USU will sponsor Education Day, June 25.

The theme, “Obstacles and Opportunities in Curriculum Reform,” was chosen to showcase the experience of the USU faculty in teaching learners across the spectrum of health science education.

Deadlines are:

- Submission of poster or demonstration abstracts are due by midnight, April 16
- Nominations for Innovation in Teaching Award are due by midnight, April 16
- Participation and presentation are due by midnight, June 18

Authors whose abstracts are accepted and Teaching Award nominees will be notified around May 1.

Additional information will be available in future issues of The Pulse and on the USU Web site.

Professional activities:

The Department of Defense and USU policy requires that all employees, both military and civilian, receive approval for engaging in any activity outside their work environment, which involves their professional expertise or government occupation (whether or not compensated), as well as any activity that involves compensation. This includes serving on the Board of a Non-Federal Organization.

This approval is required prior to engaging in the activity. In order to get approval, any employee can complete a USUHS Form 1004. This completed form must be approved and signed by each department chair or activity head.

These forms are available in the General Counsel's office or online at the USU OGC Web site. Completed forms must be turned in to the General Counsel's office. The form will be routed to the appropriate dean, brigade commander or USU president.

Once processing is completed, a copy of the approved form will be returned to the employee for the employee's records.

Using Computer Resources:

Security incidents continue to be a drain to limited USU Information Assurance manpower. The following highlight current DoD policy and best practices:

Personnel must not install self-coded or non-licensed software on network resources; add, remove, configure, or attempt to modify USU computer operating systems or programs; move audio/visual or network cables, computers or attempt to connect personal computers to the network including MDL and lecture hall spaces; connect personal devices except for those previously authorized by NOC; download pornographic material and store or display offensive material, such as racist literature, sexually harassing or obscene language or material; store or process classified information on any USU system.

Personnel must not permit unauthorized individuals access to a government-owned or government-operated system or program; access online gambling, games and social engineering sites.

Helpdesk Closure:

The NOC helpdesk is closed for training on Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

During this time, you can leave a voicemail message at 295-9800, utilize the HEAT Self Service (<http://www.usuhs.mil/uis/forms/trouble.html>), or email help@usuhs.mil.

If an emergency should arise, please call 295-9870.

Exercise/Fitness Areas:

Physical Fitness training should be conducted in designated areas.

The only authorized space for PT within the university is room G060.

The campus' Student Community Lounge area is also authorized, but only during specified PFT testing dates or times.

2010 Antietam Medical Staff March:

The Department of Military and Emergency Medicine will conduct the Antietam Medical Staff Walk at the Antietam National Battlefield on April 29, 2010. The Medical Staff Walk, a component of Military Medical Field Studies, is designed to give the student an appreciation of how historical lessons learned have shaped modern and future military medicine. This year's medical walk will retrace a Civil War casualty's evacuation route from the battlefield to supporting hospitals within the area, highlighting military medical lessons learned along the way.

Faculty senate members needed:

The USU Faculty Senate is looking for faculty volunteers to fill upcoming faculty senate positions in the upcoming year.

The Faculty Senate is a representative body providing the faculty a way to participate in the governance of the university.

The senate is an advisor to the president of the university and may pass resolutions and recommendations on issues such as education, research and faculty welfare.

The following positions will be open this coming year:

- Three positions representing the clinical department
- Four positions representing the basic science departments
- Secretary of the Faculty Senate
- President Pro-tempore of the Faculty Senate. In accordance with the USU constitution, this year's selection must be from the basic science department.

The deadline for candidacy nomination is May 10 and elections will be held in June.

Faculty interested in filling one of these positions should contact their current Faculty Senate representative or a member of the Elections and Nominations committee.



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